

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Second Worcester Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.

Residents of Second Worcester Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; less than one percent (523) of these admissions reside in the Second Worcester Representative District.¹ **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Second Worcester Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 70% were male and 30% were female.
- 63% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 85% were white non-Latino, 2% were black non-Latino, 10% were Latino, and 3% were other racial categories.
- 63% were never married, 15% were married, and 21% reported not to be married now.
- 23% had less than high school education, 56% completed high school, and 21% had more than high school education.
- 34% were employed.
- 8% were homeless.
- 25% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Second Worcester Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	39%	46%	6%	2%	2%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

¹ To protect client confidentiality, statistics representing clients under 17 years of age have been omitted from this fact sheet.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2 Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2003							
Second Worcester Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	590	536	169	144	133	101	72
FY '96	551	490	167	113	102	114	78
FY '97	573	485	184	153	117	143	100
FY '98	640	556	220	149	112	163	106
FY '99	756	644	270	188	148	221	169
FY '00	692	562	203	145	110	222	162
FY '01	750	562	233	180	128	283	223
FY '02	608	410	188	151	78	267	205
FY '03	523	311	139	129	63	251	184